



## Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration  
P.O. Box 491  
Vancouver, Washington 98666-0491

TRANSMISSION BUSINESS LINE

January 14, 2003

In reply refer to: T-DITT-2

### To: **People Interested in the Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line Project**

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has completed a supplemental draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) for the proposed Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line Project. The proposed line in central King County, Washington is needed to accommodate electrical growth and reliability concerns in the Puget Sound area. The SDEIS analyzes four additional transmission alternatives not analyzed in detail in the draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) issued in June 2001, and a number of non-transmission alternatives. This letter provides information about upcoming public meetings, describes the next steps for the project, and provides you with contact information if you have questions.

### **Background**

Last summer we held six scoping meetings and received over 1600 comments that helped us focus our environmental review. Based on those comments, BPA analyzed several transmission line routing alternatives, including: a no-action and non-transmission alternatives and four routes outside of the Cedar River Watershed. The non-transmission alternative study found that a high level of load reduction or additional generation is required to defer the line. In addition, the economic value of the energy loss savings from the new line is considerable, possibly exceeding the cost of the project. We also looked at the impacts of the new alternatives along with the impacts of the previous alternatives analyzed in the DEIS. However, the preferred route is still Alternative 1, which parallels an existing BPA transmission line through the Cedar River Municipal Watershed. If BPA decides to build the line, we would mitigate for any impacts to the watershed to ensure a safe drinking water supply for the Seattle area.

Because the SDEIS is unusually long (over 1800 pages, including appendices), we are circulating a summary of the document with a compact disk (CD) that contains the entire document, with appendices. If you requested a copy of the document, the summary is enclosed. If you would like to review the full hard copy of the SDEIS and appendices or view the entire document electronically, copies have been distributed to the local libraries (list of libraries enclosed). In addition, we have scheduled four public meetings to receive input on the SDEIS and to answer your questions.

### **Public Meetings**

The public meetings are listed below and will have an open house format for the first two hours, BPA presentations for thirty minutes and formal comments for the last ninety minutes. The meetings are listed on the following page.

**Monday, February 3rd**

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Mt. Si Senior Center  
411 Main Avenue South  
North Bend, Washington

**Wednesday, February 5th**

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Maple Valley Community Center  
22010 SE 248th Street  
Maple Valley, Washington

**Tuesday, February 4th**

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Seattle Center Rainier Room  
305 Harrison Street  
Seattle, Washington

**Thursday, February 6th**

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Tahoma Senior High School  
18200 SE 240th St  
Covington, Washington

In addition, there will be a three-hour meeting to discuss the Non-Transmission study results on:

**Tuesday, February 4th**

12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Seattle Center Rainier Room  
305 Harrison Street  
Seattle, Washington

**How to Comment**

Comment deadline is March 1, 2003. There are a number of ways to comment. You can submit comments at one of the public meetings listed above, mail them to BPA, Communications – KC-7, P.O. Box 12999, Portland, Oregon 97212, fax them to 503-230-3285 or email them to BPA at [comment@bpa.gov](mailto:comment@bpa.gov). Please include the name of this project with your comments.

**Next Steps**

We will release a final Environmental Impact Statement July 2003 and a decision will be documented in the Record of Decision, currently scheduled for release August 2003.

**For More Information**

If you need more information about the project, please call toll-free at 1-888-276-7790. You can access previous project documents on the Transmission Business Line Web site at [www.transmission.bpa.gov/projects](http://www.transmission.bpa.gov/projects). Thank you for your continued interest in this project.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lou Driessen

Lou Driessen,  
Project Manager

Enclosures:

Summary of SDEIS (if previously requested)

Comment Form

Reference Library List